ALZA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**PATENT** 

In re Application of: Dong et al.

Serial No.: 09/733,847

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Examiner: T. Ware

Group Art Unit: 1615

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Date

Signature

Elizabeth Grannell

Printed Name

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following remarks are filed in response to the restriction requirement included in the Office Action mailed March 12, 2001, the one-month period for response to which expires on April 12, 2002.

In the Office Action, pending claims 1 through 52 are restricted into three groups for examination purposes, with Group I including claims 1 through 4, 13 through 20, and 27 through 28, Group II including claims 5 through 12 and claims 21 through 26, and Group III including claims 39 through 52. Without traverse, Applicants hereby elect the claims included in Group I for examination.

Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which may be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,

Samuel E. Webb

Registration No.: 44,394

ALZA Corporation

Intellectual Property Department, M10-3

P.O. Box 7210

Mountain View, CA 94039

(650) 564-5106

SEW/eg

Date: April 12, 2002